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Approved For Release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00270

release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP80-01060A000100010001-5  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

0437002  
REPORT NO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE DISTR. 16 MAY 1949

COUNTRY Greece/Albania

SUBJECT GSEE Meeting Ostensibly to Protest Against Aid  
Given to the Greek Guerrillas

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1A6a

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ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO: 11/11/2001

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1X6

1. On 11 April 1949 a meeting called by F. Makris, Secretary General of the GSEE (General Labor Confederation of Greece) was held in the office of the Lawyers' Club of Athens. The meeting was attended by about 60 persons, representatives of various labor organizations, of higher school students, and of disabled and other veterans.
2. Fondiris, President of the Lawyers' Club, presided over the meeting. The chief speaker was GSEE Secretary General Makris. Remarks made by the latter, as well as by Dimitrios Haloulas, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, followed the line of argument that, as long as the minority party within Parliament (the Sofoulis faction) governed Greece, rather than the majority party (that of Tsaldaris), it would continue to be impossible for the Greeks to hold head to "that nation of gypsies and bare-footed Albanians, a nation created by the Great Powers to serve their own interests". They urged their listeners to rouse the people under their leadership, and invade Albania "with sticks and stones", ignoring the present government. A mass meeting of all the people of Greece was also suggested, without securing the permission of the Sofoulis Government, "so that we can show the whole world that we amount to something".
3. Judging from the above and other remarks made, as well as the persons assembled, the impression was given that the meeting was intended rather to strike a blow at the Sofoulis Government than to serve the purpose for which it had ostensibly been called.
4. It was finally voted to form a committee to organize the mass meeting, even if the Government refused to grant its approval.

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Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

Document No.                       
 NO CHANGE in Class. ☒  
 (1) DECLASSIFIED  
 Class. CHANGED TO: TS  
 DDA Memo. 4 Apr 77  
 Auth: DDA REG. 77/1765  
 Date: 10 MAR 1978 By:                     

CLASSIFICATION

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